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BE MY WIFE ✓

Photoplay in five reels ✓

✓ Written and directed by Max Linder ✓

Author of the photoplay (under Section 62) ✓
Goldwyn Pictures Corporation of the U. S. ✓

NOV 23 1921
CITIZENSHIP DIVISION
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Max is calling on his sweetheart and watering flowers in a vase that throws a reflection like a girl's face. The girl's aunt believes he is pouring water on the girl's head and she hastens indoors. The aunt catches them holding hands and she bawls them out. Max starts to exit and when the aunt is not looking he and the girl toss kisses to each other, barely escaping the aunt's detection. Following Max's departure his fat and chubby rival Archie enters. He has a bulldog in his arms which he sticks in Max's face. The two women greet Archie and it is evident he is a strong favorite with the aunt. Max is outside the window and looking in at the little group. The girl slips Max a note thru the window telling him she will meet him in the garden. The dog pulls a cover off of a desk upsetting a statuette of an elephant and some small bric a brac. In the ensuing excitement the girl escapes and rejoins Max in the garden. Meanwhile, Max has approached a scarecrow and dons its grotesque garb. The girl draws near and Max commences to make love to her. Archie, the aunt and dog come near and Max immediately resumes his scarecrow attitude. The girl whispers to Max that her aunt wants a music teacher for her. Archie and the aunt exit and the girl leaves promising to be right back. The dog eyes the scarecrow suspiciously and commences to growl. The girl returns and quiets the dog. Archie glimpses the girl and Max and she dissemble as he draws near. Archie kneels to propose to the girl and Max sprinkles water from a can over his head. Archie continues his love making and the scarecrow kicks him and Archie gazes around in bewilderment. He departs to tell the aunt about the mystery while Max and the girl share the joke together. The aunt comes near and unties the dog. The scarecrow runs and is chased by the dog. Mounting a wall the scarecrow is temporarily halted by the firm grip the dog has on the seat of his pants. The cloth gives away and Max falls on the other side of the wall. The aunt chases the girl indoors and as Max peers cautiously over the top of the wall the aunt seizes a stick and makes a pass at him. Max retreats.

Max approaches the house and removing a beard from his pocket places it around his chin. While waiting for admittance he looks up and witnesses the dog eyeing him attentively. Max is admitted by the butler and has the latter announce him as Signor Gondola, the singing master. The aunt introduces him to the girl and shows him to the piano. Max sits down on the floor and a little byplay follows before he finally seats himself before the instrument. After several preliminary starts Max finally commences to explain to the aunt why he cannot play. The girl tells him to beat time slowly, and if auntie doesn't like your tempo --beat it rapisly. Max xommences to beat time and he and the girl commence to sing. The aunt also joins in and the dog is gazing in at Max from the window. The aunt falls asleep and Max and the girl commence to make love. He removes his beard to kiss her. The aunt awakens and Max forgets to replace his disguise. He and the girl are singing but the Aunt glares at him with dawning recognition. The dog still watches the trio. Max discover the absence of his beard and he replaces it hurriedly. The aunt arises and starts toward Max-the dog following. Max runs and dives thru an open window and the dog pursues him. Eventually Max jumps to safety over a wire fence only to be felled by ablow from a mallet in the hands of Archie who has awaited his rival's coming. Max finally comes to and leans back against the wall-a dazed expression on his countenance.

Max and the girl are being married and three months later they are still honeymooning. The girl is tying her husband's tie and the aunt is examining a waste paper basket hoping to find some incriminating evidence against Max. Max and his wife fool about and they finally fall to the floor on top of an overturned sofa. The aunt believes he has attacked his wife and hastens to the rescue. She is shocked to find them still kissing and hugging each other on the floor. The aunt calls the girl and

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remarks that she will show her something that will make her honeymoon sick. The aunt then shows two scraps of paper with the words I love you on one and adore you on the other. She glares triumphantly at Max and the girl begins to cry. Max goes to the basket and gathers the rest of the torn letter scraps and pieces the whole letter together. The wife is overjoyed as she reads as it is a letter of appreciation from the head of a children's home thanking Max for his financial assistance. Husband and wife embrace.

The aunt and the girl go shopping at Mme. Coralie's. This is a place where women can be fitted to short skirts or to long intoxicating drinks. The girl and aunt are examining a gown which the girl likes but she fears the price of \$300. is too steep. The aunt tells her to purchase it and tell her husband she only paid fifty dollars for it at Field's. The girl buys the gown ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Archie visits Max and as the latter starts toward the piano Archie suggests that they lay off the music and tune up on liquor. Max fumbles at the piano and releases a secret spigot. Pressing the piano keys a thin trickle of liquor flows into a waiting glass. Evidently the supply is low for Max has a hard time pounding out half a glass and then he upsets the glass and both men gaze ~~xxxx~~ ruefully at the spilled liquor. Archie suggests they go to Coralie's and they exit. They enter the shop as the wife and aunt leave. Archie introduces Max to Mr. and Mrs. Andrews who are also in the shop. Max greets Mme. Coralie cordially after Archie makes him known. Several models are displaying gowns and Max seats himself near a fat woman. She evinces interests in a gown with slender lines and comments to Max that it makes one look so slender. Viewing her bulk and visualizing her in the same costume Max is moved to mirth and he laughs in her face. Max rejoins Mme. Coralie and finally purchases a gown for his wife and they argue about the price. Archie rejoins them and wants to know where the office of John Barleycorn is. The Madame remarks it is reserved for ladies and their escorts only. Coralie and Mrs. Andrews enter the other room. Archie finally thinks they may be able to get into the room via the side door and he and Max leave. In the other room fitted up as a cafe the madame explains to Mrs. Andrews that a clock will cuckoo a warning if the police come and that all she has to do is to press a button on the wall. Returning Mrs. Andrews finds her husband kidding a model and she gets sore and tells Coralie to reserve the room for two. Max and Archie come back and the former is showing the slender fashioned gown to the fat lady. Mrs. Andrews slips a card into Archie's hand inviting him to meet her for lunch in the private room. The invitation is pencilled on the card. After some discussion Archie agrees to accept the invitation. Max departs for home carrying the gown he has purchased for his wife. Mister Mme. Coralie is chased from the shop into another room by his bossy wife. He finds a bill showing that Mrs. Max Linder owes his wife \$10,000 and he pockets same and starts for the Linder home with the idea of collecting the bill and keeping the proceeds for pocket money. Max enters and greets his wife and the aunt. The note which Mrs. Andrews gave to Archie drops from Max's hat to the floor and the Aunt becomes suspicious and reads it. She shows it to the wife and the latter promptly faints. Coralie arrives and tries to collect the bill off of Max. The irate husband demands to know who is paying his wife's bills and he nearly throttles Coralie. The aunt and wife plan to catch Max at Mme. Coralie's and then notify the police. The announce they have an engagement at Mme. Coralie's but Max becomes suspicious. He bribes Mr. Coralie to conceal him in a pipe closet where he can keep a watchful eye on the private room. Max waits inside with a revolver in his hand. The heat from the pipes commence to prove unbearable and Max is forced to discard his clothing and eventually he is ~~xxxx~~ clad only in his underwear and socks. A policeman stands outside the door and guides the guests into the cafe. Archie and Mrs. Andrews enter the cafe and commence to indulge in liquid refreshments. Max reaches out and

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appropriates first a glass and then the bottle of liquor. Archie is perplexed at the vanishing of same. Inside the closet Max gets semi-intoxicated. The woman and Archie have considerable discussion concerning the disappearance of the liquor when the clock sounds a warning. Policemen outside accompanied by Mr. Andrews come into the place. Mrs. Andrews has pressed a button and the room revolves and is transformed into a ladie's fitting room. The policemen and the husband are baffled. Noticing smoke coming from the pipe closet one of the detectives approaches and drags out Max. The detective send s the others out of the room and then he commences to question Max. The detective converses with Andrews and tells him to ring for the madame. Again the room revolves but the two men notice nothing unusual. Another push on the button and the room reverts to former state. The detectives and Andrews finally leave. A negress maid enters and takes a vinegar druet away from the drunken Max. He pleads with her for another drink and has his arms about her trying to get hold of the bottle when his wife enters. She construes the worst upon glimpsing the pair and faints dead away.

The aunt and wife are back home planning to get a lawyer for divorce proceedings when Max enters. The butler has placed his things in the street obeying the aunt's instructions. His wife scorns his friendly advances and remarks--"Well, Mr. Passion you've had two flames--I'll have three. Max commands the butler to throw all of the aunt's clothes into the street. Mr. Coralie enters with all his luggage and tells Max it's up to him to shelter him as his wife has kicked him out. The butler takes Corlaie's things into the room formerly occupied by the aunt. Mrs. Linder enters and wonders what Coralie is doing in the house. Hearing her husband's footsteps approaching she embraces the surprised Coralie and he too kisses her soundly. Max views the tableau in amazement and the wife holds up one finger and then exits. Max shases Corlaie around the room and finally out-doors. They climb a tree and Max stuns Coralie with a large branch and the other falls across a large sea saw. Max tumbles onto the other end and Coralie is precipitated thru the air and into the window of the house ~~again~~. Meanwhile Archie has entered the house and is conversing with Mrs. Linder. Hearing Max approach she again commences to make love to Archie. Max looks thru the door and is dumbfounded. His wife holds up two fingers and again exits. Max commences to beat Archie up and the other protests he has a weak heart and cannot fight. Max tells him to square him with his wife or he will kill him. Mrs. Linder enters and commences to listen to Archie's explanation which is corroborated by the timely arrival of a note from Mr. Andrews. Husband and wife become reconciled. Upstairs the aunt gets into the bed which is already occupied By Mr. Coralie. He awakes and remarks his wife is growing thin. The aunt screams and runs ~~to the window~~ ~~Max enters the room and takes her by the neck of the dress and drags her to the window~~ for a window where she faints and hangs hald over the sill. Max draws the blinds and kisses his wife. He awakens in the garden to find it all a dream and he is pulling a pair of stockings attached to a clothes line.

Max is still determined to win the girl and he approaches the house at night. He has a pair of old shoes in his hands. He enters a room via a window and places the shoes underneath a curtain so that it looks from the outside as if a man were concealed behind same. In the outer room Archie is courting the girl with the Aunt looking on. Max exits from room and walks around house toward front door. The aunt comes into room and seeing the shoes she believes a burglar is in hiding. She runs into other room and beseeches Archie to attack the intruder. Archie wavers in indecision and altho the girl hands him a gun he does not move. The aunt runs toward the street door and hollers ~~for help~~ for help. She encounters Max and he offers to help her. He accompanies her into the house and commences to remove his hatm coat, gloves etc. in nonchalant manner draping them ~~over~~ over Archie's outstretched arms. Max enters the room in a do or die manner. Sounds of

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terrific struggle are audible to the ears of the anxious listeners in the other room. Max fights himself all around the room, smashes much furniture and tears his clothes etc. Putting some rouge on his face he looks as tho he has just come from a terrible battle. He uses the empty shoes to stage a mock scuffle the watchers in the other room seeing only the feet shuffling to and from. Max finally staggers into their presence with the attitude of the conquering hero. The women assist him to a couch and tenderly administer to him. It is evident that his bravery has made a hit with the aunt and that he is in high favor. Archie reading the signs slinks away.

Max and the girl are married and Archie acts as best man. Max remarks that in this case the best man has lost and that he is glad Archie is the best man. The minister is uttering the marriage ritual when Archie places a white rat on the floor at Max's feet and the rodent scampers up his trousers. Max suffers untold agonies as the ceremony continues and the aunt, the girl and the other guests eye his unexplained antics in amazement. The ceremony is finally completed and the orchestra plays and the guests commence to dance. Max and his wife soon join the dancers and he shakes to and fro in an effort to dislodge the rat from his clothes. The aunt is shocked and voices her opinion that a husband who shimmies now may be expected to do anything later on. The aunt comes up to the newly weds and remonstrates with Max for his shimmying. He tells her he is trying to shake something but it is not the shimmy. The aunt departs in disgust. Max dances his wife around and maneuvers to get his back up against the harp hoping thus to dislodge the rodent from his clothes. He finally excuses himself and going into the other room he removes the rat from his clothes and tosses it away. It falls in the minister's derby which he places on his head while bidding the aunt adieu. Max rejoins his wife feeling much relieved but suddenly feels the same sensation again. He reenters the room and removes his trousers disclosing a family of young rodents nestling around the waistband. He releases the mice and they scamper about and he thrusts a few of them down the aunt's back. She enters the room and commences to writhe to and fro. The guests believe she is doing a hootchy-kootchy dance and they commence to applaud her vociferously. Max enters and the other mice frighten the ladies away and they raise their dresses and seek shelter on chairs, tables and other spots. The men chase the mice about the room. A general air of pandemonium prevails. Max looks up and glimpses six shapely feminine legs upon a chair. He commences to get an eye full. The aunt is on her hands and knees on the floor nearby. Max seats himself the better to view the leg show. The aunt moves and Max is hurled to the floor with a resounding jar.

E.J.M.

Washington, D.C.

Register of Copyrights
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.

NOV 23 1921

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~~Goldwyn Pictures Corporation~~

Max Linder

BE MY WIFE (5 reels)

Respectfully,

FULTON BRYLAWSKI

Max Linder
The ~~Goldwyn Pictures Corporation~~ hereby acknowledges the receipt of two copies each of the motion picture films deposited and registered in the Copyright Office as follows:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date of Deposit</u>	<u>Registration</u>
BE MY WIFE	11/23/21	L: ©CL 17233

10 Copies Returned

NOV 26 1921

Bk. D

El Person

Max Linder

The return of the above copies was requested by the said company, by its agent and attorney on the 23d day of November, 1921, and the said Fulton Brylawski for himself and as the duly authorized agent and attorney of the said company, hereby acknowledges the delivery to him of said copies and the receipt thereof.

O.K.-B.F.T.
NOV 26 1921

Fulton Brylawski

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